

77 01216

REPORT OF THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
AS AUGMENTED FOR THE STUDY OF THE AREA COMPRISING THE
WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

PROPOSED ALVARADO-DECOTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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MAR 21 1977

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

This report has been prepared by the
Alameda County Superintendent of Schools Office
and the
Bureau of School District Organization
State Department of Education
at the request of the
Alameda County Committee on
School District Organization

August

1963

*[Alameda county. Schools department I
[California. Department of education. Division of public
school administration. Bureau of school district organ-
ization]
School district reorganization Alameda co.]*

COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

224 WEST WINTON AVENUE
HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

September 10, 1963

To: The California State Board of Education

Gentlemen:

Understandably, we were disappointed to learn of your inability to approve our recommendations of April 1963 for the formation of three unified school districts in the area of the Washington Union High School District. On the other hand, the reasons for your decision that were listed in your letter of June 17 encouraged us to hope that, with the additional information whose need they indicate, it would be possible for you to approve our recommendations.

Your letter was the basis for our discussions on the evenings of August 1, August 7 and August 29. In the course of the first evening a motion was made that the area of the Washington Union High School District be recommended to become one unified district. This motion died for the lack of a second. On the second evening, August 7, the Augmented Committee voted to resubmit, together with supplemental information, its earlier recommendation that the area of the Newark School District become a unified district and we have since been notified that this matter will be on your agenda for September 13. On the third evening, August 29, the Augmented Committee voted to resubmit, with such additional information as might be helpful to you, its recommendations to form a unified district comprising Alvarado and Decoto School Districts and a unified district comprising the area of Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs School Districts. This letter will be concerned with the Alvarado-Decoto area.

A motion was made by Ralph Van Nortwick, a member of the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization, and was seconded by James W. Celcer, a member of the board of the Decoto School District, that the Augmented Alameda County Committee on School District Organization resubmit unchanged and in its entirety its original proposal that a unified district be formed comprising the Alvarado and Decoto School Districts.

The following is a record of the vote on the motion:

<u>COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mrs. Dorothy Balangero			x
J. Ralph Baxter	x		
Frank J. Borghi, Jr.	x		
Orland Close	x		
Godfrey A. Duncan	x		
Dr. Raymond D. Gurney	x		
Roy B. Jensen	x		
Mrs. Harriet Nathan			x

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COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS (cont'd)

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Edward F. Newman	x		
Leonard J. Paquette	x		
Ralph Van Nortwick	x		
Subtotal	9	0	2

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Alvarado			x
Decoto			
James W. Celcer	x		
Washington Union High School			
Wesley F. Sears	x		
Subtotal	2	0	1
TOTAL	11	0	3

The chairman declared the motion carried.

In the following paragraphs we wish to offer some additional information in response to the six points raised in your letter of June 17 as they apply to the Alvarado-Decoto area:

1. Size. While your policies do not give a specific figure, they do indicate (Title V, 135.3b) that the district should be sufficiently large to permit adequate operation of a school district at a reasonable cost. Educational literature indicates that this figure is somewhere in the neighborhood of 10,000 enrollment, K-12. Your policies do, however, mention that an area, if it is the entire area of a high school district with an enrollment of 2,000 pupils or more, may be considered for a unified district. An enrollment of 10,000 is mentioned in section 135.3c of Title V (Financial Ability) not as a figure of minimum size, but as a figure below which special attention must be given to avoid the setting up of rich or poor unified school districts. This is not an issue in the area of the Washington Union High School District. Based on tables in our original report of April 1963 the Alvarado-Decoto area compares with the rest of the area as follows:

<u>Districts</u>	<u>Total Assess. Val. 1962-63</u>	<u>K-12 Enrollment March 29, 1963</u>			<u>Assess. Val. per Pupil</u>	
		<u>Elem.</u>	<u>H.S.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Elem.</u>	<u>H.S.</u>
Alvarado	\$ 5,509,695	267			\$20,636	
Decoto	<u>18,599,130</u>	<u>3,174</u>			<u>5,860</u>	
Total	\$24,108,825	3,441	918	4,359	\$ 7,006	\$26,262
High School District						
Area excluding						
Alvarado and Decoto	\$109,226,787	20,515	5,063	25,578	\$ 5,324	\$21,574
Total High School						
District Area						
Including Alvarado						
and Decoto	\$133,335,612	23,956	5,981	29,937	\$ 5,566	\$22,293

The enrollment in the Alvarado-Decoto area is nearly two and a half times the 2,000 minimum figure referred to and there is evidence to support the belief that it will exceed the 10,000 figure in a few years. Part of this evidence is in growth estimates submitted by Decoto School District recently in an application for approval of its proposed acquisition of a new school site. The application, No. 19/32521, which is on file with the State Department of Education and with the State Department of Finance, projects an enrollment of 7,454 in 1967-68. This is 235 percent of Decoto's enrollment of 3,174 on March 29, 1963. Assuming that this same percentage would apply to the total elementary and high school enrollment of 4,359 in the combined area of Alvarado and Decoto School Districts, the total projected enrollment for the proposed unified district would be 10,244 in 1967-68.

Further promise of growth in the relatively near future is contained in the accompanying letter of September 4, 1963, from the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, addressed to you. It concludes that recently authorized flood control projects "will result in a corresponding continued increase in the population and assessed valuation of the area."

The Alameda County Planning Department has estimated a K-12 enrollment of 8,800 in the Alvarado-Decoto area by 1969, and a possible 16,500 by 1985. These estimates are given in the Planning Department's letter of April 22, 1963, to the superintendent of the Decoto School District. A copy is attached.

2. Disruption of the high school program. Change in school district organization is likely to be accompanied by some changes in school program whatever the grade level. Since the proposed Alvarado-Decoto Unified School District would have a high school as well as a number of elementary schools and since the remainder of the total area is equally well-supplied with high schools and elementary schools, there would be no need for disruptive change in the program of any one of the high schools.

3. Perpetuation of inadequate unified districts. In the light of present size and early anticipated growth, we cannot believe that the Alvarado-Decoto Unified School District would be "inadequate". The area of the Washington Union High School District has been under study almost continuously since 1955 and in the judgment of the Augmented Committee a unified district comprised of Alvarado and Decoto School Districts could offer a program of education superior to that now available. We agree that the district would tend to perpetuate itself, but not as an "inadequate" district, even if so defined only in terms of size. If our expectation that the enrollment will surpass the 10,000 figure within a few years after unification should prove unfounded, we feel that it would be no more difficult to induce the unified district to merge with a more populous unified district than it is to induce a non-unified area to form a unified district.

4. One unified district. A tentative recommendation to form a single unified district comprising the area of the Washington Union High School District was made on May 31, 1962 by a vote of 14 to 5. After two public hearings had been held, the Augmented Committee at its study meeting of October 18, 1962 voted 16 to 2 to modify the tentative recommendation. This decision was reached in spite of recommendations made in a very complete report prepared by Dr. Edgar L. Morphet and Dr. Theodore L. Reller of the University of California. This report recommended the formation of a single unified district of the area or as a second choice the division of the area into two unified districts. This report had been in the hands of the members of the Augmented Committee for some months before they concluded that neither of these recommendations would provide for the area as well as dividing it into three unified districts.

Even the Morphet-Reller report cast some doubt on the long-term desirability of favoring a single large unified district. Its recommendation for one district was modified by this statement: "However in view of the prospective growth trends, the district in a few years would become relatively large and, in the eyes of some, perhaps unwieldy. Once a district has attained a satisfactory size in population, there is no special advantage, and there may be some disadvantages, associated with further increase in population." It was the Committee's judgment, shown by the strong negative vote to modify its tentative recommendation, that the formation of a single unified district could not be anticipated. Further evidence of the impossibility of getting an affirmative vote to recommend one unified district of the entire area was developed in the meeting of August 1 when a motion was made to recommend the formation of one unified district. The motion died for want of a second.

5. Fragmentation of the tax base. Fragmentation of the tax base at the high school level would be of course an automatic result of dividing the high school district into three proposed unified school districts. However, this would be offset by the broadening of the tax base at the elementary level. In the case of the proposed Alvarado-Decoto Unified School District neither the wealth per pupil at the high school level nor the wealth per pupil at the elementary level would vary materially from the wealth per pupil in the remainder of the area or in the entire area of the high school district.

6. Equalization of local wealth at the elementary level. The wealth per elementary pupil in the area under discussion now varies from \$5,860 to

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September 10, 1963

\$20,636. Under unification, this would become \$7,006, which we consider a significant improvement in equalization.

We hope that the supplemental information conveyed in this letter will be of assistance to you in reconsidering our original recommendation and that it may result in an opportunity for the people of the area to determine in an election whether they will form a unified school district.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward F. Newman, Chairman

EFN:fwf

ALAMEDA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

HERBERT G. CROWLE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

224 WEST WINTON AVENUE
HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA

537-5800 ELGIN 7-0844

RICHARD W. KARN
ENGINEER-MANAGER

September 4, 1963

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

JOHN D. MURPHY
1ST DISTRICT

ROBERT E. HANNON
2ND DISTRICT

LELAND W. SWEENEY
3RD DISTRICT

KENT D. PURSEL
4TH DISTRICT

EMANUEL P. RAZETO
5TH DISTRICT

FILE NO. _____

State Board of Education
Education Building
Sacramento, California

Attention: Dr. Max Rafferty

Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen:

This office has been requested to make a factual statement on the effect of recently authorized flood control projects on population and assessed valuation in the Union City area. A considerable portion of the Union City (Decoto and Alvarado area) lies within Zone No. 5 of this District. Although much of this area has already shown a large growth in population and assessed valuation, a portion of the area lies within the flood plain of Alameda Creek or lacks adequate drainage and has not yet been developed.

This District, in 1955, adopted a construction project for local flood control and drainage facilities in this Zone. However, the Alameda Creek Project is of considerable magnitude and is beyond the scope of a local agency. In 1962, the Federal Government authorized a project totalling \$17,000,000 for the improvement of Alameda Creek. Since that time, various appropriations have been made by the Congress and the design work for this project is being continued by the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army.

In order to expedite the work on Alameda Creek and to provide additional drainage for the southern portion of Union City, this District recently proposed a Project No. 2 in Zone No. 5. On August 20, 1963, a bond election for the amount of \$6,903,000 was approved by the voters. The purposes of the Project No. 2 were to expedite the flood control project on Alameda Creek by the provision of funds for the local cooperation required by the United States; to extend existing improvements and add new drainage facilities; to benefit the people in the Zone by encouraging increased industrial development and thus additional jobs and the broadening of the tax base; the coordination of the construction of flood control and drainage systems in the hill areas and in shoreline development; and to protect the property values of the entire Zone from the depressing effects caused by floods or poor drainage.

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

State Board of Education

-2-

September 4, 1963

The effect of the successful bond election in Zone No. 5 and the continuing work towards actual construction on the Alameda Creek Federal Project will have the effect of opening up large areas of land in the Zone for new residential, commercial, and industrial development and will result in a corresponding continued increase in the population and assessed valuation of the area.

Very truly yours,

RICHARD W. KARN
ENGINEER-MANAGER

By *James D. Wilson*
JAMES D. WILSON
ASSISTANT ENGINEER-MANAGER

JDW:dw

Mr. Harold Schulzfeld
District Superintendent
Santa Clara County School District
725 Chicago Road
San Jose, California

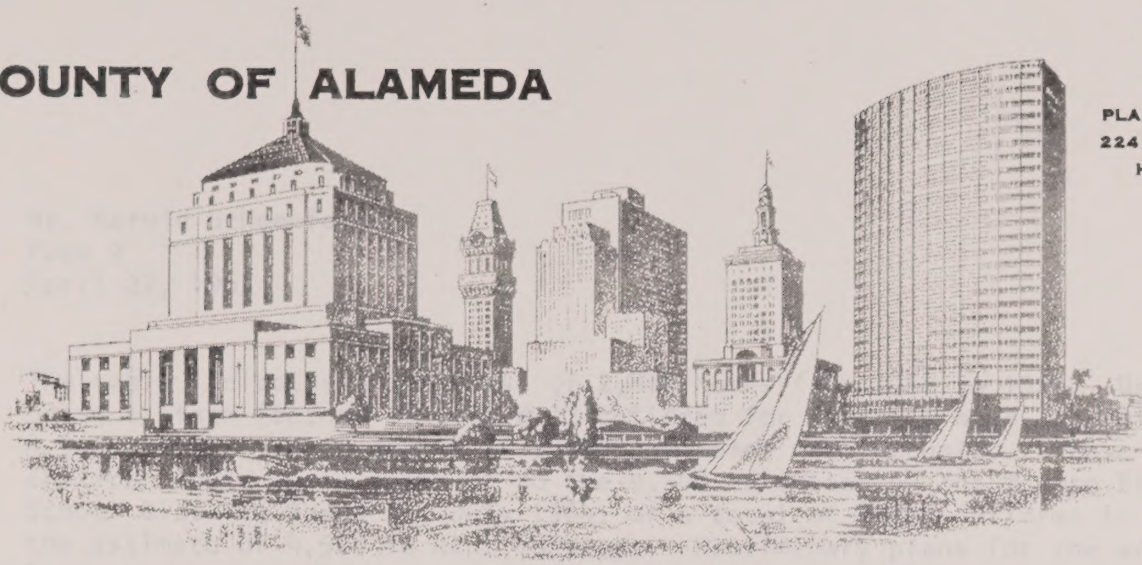
Dear Harold:

This is in reply to your letter of April 10 in which you requested an estimate of the kindergarten through 12th grade population within the Alameda Creek Federal Project area for the years 1963 through 1967. This estimate is based on the 1960 census data and is intended to provide a basis for planning school facilities for the years 1963 through 1967. The estimate is based on the 1960 census data and is intended to provide a basis for planning school facilities for the years 1963 through 1967.

Estimated number of housing units for the two (2) school districts as of 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, and 1966 are shown in the attached table. These figures are based on the 1960 census data and are intended to provide a basis for planning school facilities for the years 1963 through 1967. The estimate is based on the 1960 census data and is intended to provide a basis for planning school facilities for the years 1963 through 1967.

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

PLANNING COMMISSION
224 WEST WINTON AVE.
HAYWARD, CALIF.



April 22, 1963

Mr. Harold Schoenfeld
District Superintendent
Decoto Elementary School District
725 Whipple Road
Union City, California

Dear Harold:

This is in reply to your letter of April 10 in which you request an estimate of the kindergarten through 12th grade population within the Alvarado and Decoto School Districts in five years (from July 1964 through June 1969) and at saturation. Saturation as interpreted by this department means at plan-holding capacity; and in this instance, the plan is a preliminary staff plan for 1985 which includes land-use proposals contained in the official Union City Plan.

Estimated number of housing units for the two (2) school districts as of 1960, 1963, 1964, 1969, and 1985 are shown on the attached table. Change in number of housing units from 1963 to 1964 is based on subdivision maps now on file in this office. Estimates of housing units to be built between 1964 and 1969 are based on development which might be expected to take place in the hill area during that period as indicated by developers' plans and other factors at this time. It is impossible, of course, to predict with any degree of accuracy whether or not all of the development will be completed within this five-year period. This will depend upon plans of private developers, the demand for housing and other economic factors. Estimates do not include additional development which will undoubtedly result in other portions of the school districts following completion of currently-planned flood control facilities since facilities are not scheduled for completion for another five (5) to seven (7) years.

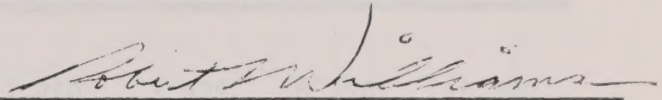
Mr. Harold Schoenfeld

Page 2

April 22, 1963

The table indicates an increase of 2,815 homes from 1964 to 1969. Using present State factors of 1.54 K-12 children for each new home, approximately 4,300 children would result if 2,800 new homes were occupied. These 4,300 children would be in addition to the 4,500 estimated by the Decoto Elementary School District Board for July 1964, or a total of 8,800 children in 1969 if the estimate of 4,500 is kept constant. Preliminary plans for the area indicate the possibility of 16,500 K-12 children by 1985.

Very truly yours,



Robert L. Williams
Planning Director

RLW:RWD:me

Enclosure: Estimated Number of
Housing Units

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS, ALVARADO AND DECOTO SCHOOL DISTRICTS,
1960, 1963, 1964, 1969 and 1985

	April 1960 ^a	July 1963 ^b	July 1964 ^c	July 1969 ^c	1985 ^c
Total	3,302	3,750	3,935	6,750	11,900
Portion in Hayward Planning Area	1,584	1,584	1,585	1,590	1,600
Union City Planning Area	1,718	2,166	2,350	5,160	10,300

Source: ^aU. S. Census.

^bBuilding permits issued through February, 1963.

^cAlameda County Planning Department.

Alameda County Planning Department
April 22, 1963

J. F. COAKLEY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

OFFICE OF
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ALAMEDA COUNTY
COURT HOUSE
OAKLAND 12, CALIFORNIA
HIGHGATE 4-0507

R. ROBERT HUNTER
CHIEF ASSISTANT

April 10, 1963

Alameda County Committee
on School District Organization
224 West Winton Avenue
Hayward, California

Gentlemen:

RE: Formation of unified school districts comprising the following elementary school districts: (1) Newark; (2) Alvarado and Decoto; and (3) Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs

The County Superintendent of Schools of Alameda County has requested this office to examine the record of the procedures of your Committee in arriving at your recommendation to be made to the State Board of Education in this matter.

We have examined the record of the procedures of your Committee in arriving at your recommendation that unified school districts be formed comprising the following elementary school districts:

- (1) Newark;
- (2) Alvarado and Decoto; and
- (3) Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs.

To the best of our knowledge your procedures comply with all the legal requirements of the Education Code of the State of California.

Very truly yours,

J. F. COAKLEY
District Attorney

By

Thomas E. Firby
Thomas E. Firby
Assistant

TEF:gk

ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Augmented for the Study of the Area Comprising the
Washington Union High School District

The County Committee:

Edward F. Newman
Roy B. Jensen
Mrs. Dorothy Balangero
J. Ralph Baxter
Frank J. Borghi, Jr.
Godfrey Duncan
Mrs. Harriet Nathan
Leonard J. Paquette
Philip Silver
Ralph Van Nortwick
Raymond D. Gurney
Rock La Fleche

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Member

"
"
"
"
"
"
"

Superintendent of Schools
and ex-officio Secretary
of the County Committee

School District Trustees

Washington Union High School District

Frank J. Borghi, Jr.
Wesley F. Sears
Paul Gygax
M. J. Bernardo
Gordon E. Dickerson

Decoto School District

Joseph Seoane, Jr.
Mrs. Gail Pagan
James W. Celcer
S. R. "Stan" Richards
Harry K. Spooner

Alvarado School District

Wilbert Hendricks
William Machado
George Vargas

Irvington School District

John R. Gomes
J. Ralph Baxter
C. P. Catlin
Allan R. Hirsch
Abe N. Holden

Alviso School District

Herman Lambrecht
Leonard George
Donald G. Glankler
Isabelle Johnson
William Wallace

Newark School District

Luther Emmett
Gene Savaria
Louis Caldeira
Roy B. Jensen
Harry S. Lewis

Centerville School District

Mrs. Mary G. Rodrigues
Elmer Wiesenborn
Elsworth G. Finlay
Claire Lopez
Dr. Holger Rasmussen

Niles School District

Joseph Jeno
Linton Vorwerck
Francis Winkel
Walter Hughes
Robert Ledeen

Warm Springs School District

Lucien J. Trudel
Orville J. Leitch
Antone Vargas

OUTLINE MAP OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SHOWING COUNTIES AND COUNTY SEATS

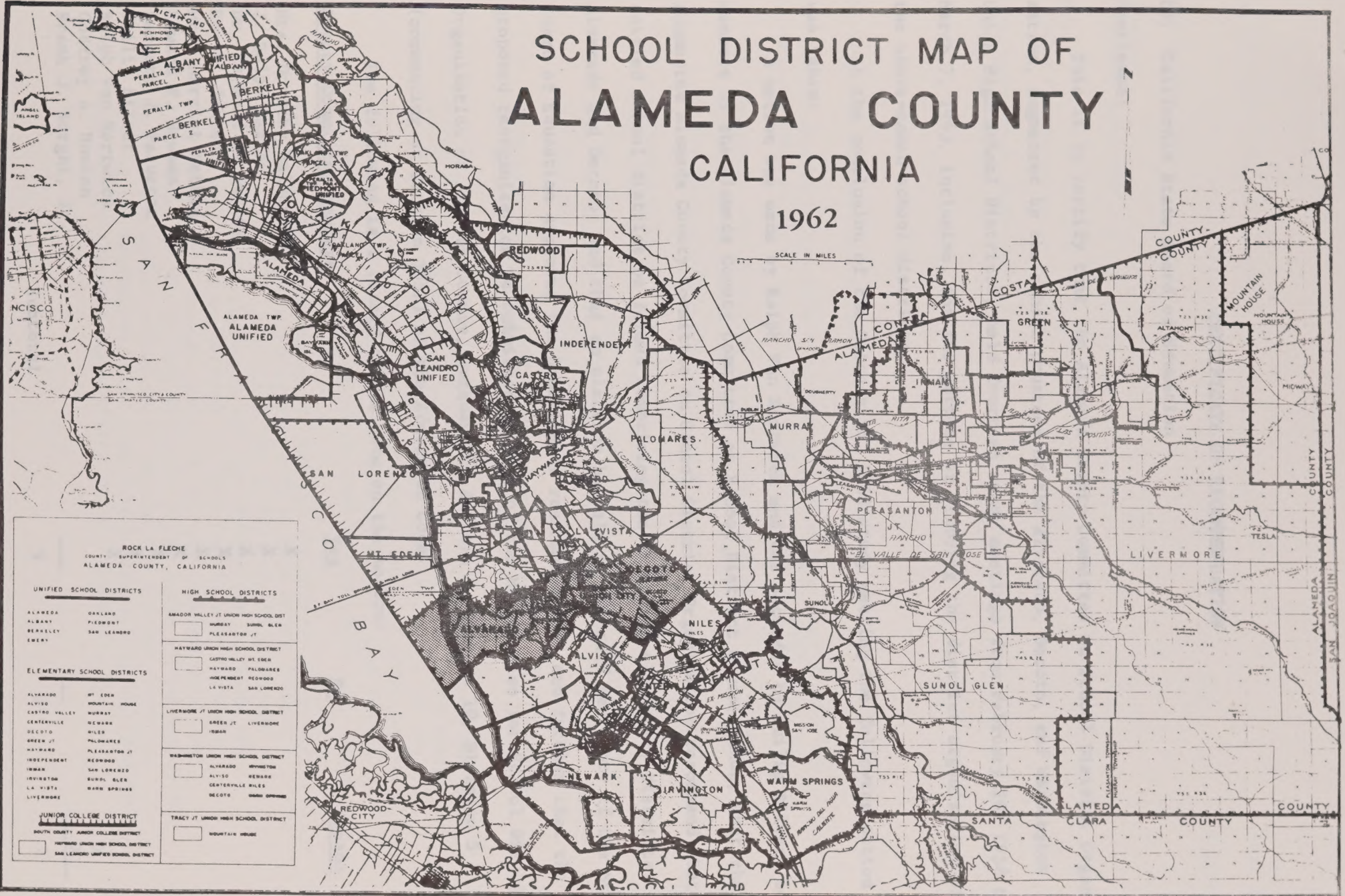
WITH CODE NUMBERS ASSIGNED TO COUNTIES
IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER



SCHOOL DISTRICT MAP OF ALAMEDA COUNTY CALIFORNIA

1962

SCALE IN MILES



● PROPOSED ALVARADO-DECOTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

CERTIFICATE OF RECOMMENDATION

TO: California State Board of Education

Gentlemen:

This is to certify that the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization, augmented by the school trustees of the Alvarado, Decoto, and Washington Union High School Districts, held fourteen study meetings from February 26, 1958 to March 7, 1963, inclusive, for the purpose of studying the district organization of the above-named school districts.

At the conclusion of the October 18, 1962 study meeting the following action was taken:

A motion was made by Ralph Van Nortwick and was seconded by Philip Silver, both members of the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization, that the Augmented Alameda County Committee on School District Organization recommend that a unified school district be formed comprising the following elementary districts: Alvarado and Decoto; and that an election be held in the said territory if the State Board of Education approves the Committee's recommendation; and further that the proposed reorganization be submitted as part of the Master Plan for School District Organization of Alameda County, pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 10, Division 5 (commencing at Section 3551) of the Education Code.

The following is a record of the vote on the motion:

<u>County Committee Members</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mrs. Dorothy Balangero	X		
J. Ralph Baxter	X		
Dr. Raymond D. Gurney	X		
Roy B. Jensen	X		
Mrs. Harriet Nathan	X		
Edward F. Newman	X		
Leonard J. Paquette	X		
Philip Silver	X		
Ralph Van Nortwick	X		
Godfrey A. Duncan			X
Frank J. Borghi, Jr.			X
Subtotal	9	0	2

<u>School Districts</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Alvarado			
Wilbert Hendricks		X	
Decoto			
James Celcer	X		
Washington Union High School			
G. E. Dickerson	X		
Subtotal	2	1	0
Total	11	1	2

The chairman declared the motion carried.

The Augmented County Committee as named above unanimously made the following recommendations, as shown in the minutes of the March 7, 1963 meeting:

1. Trustees. The governing board of the proposed unified school district shall consist of five members elected by the voters of the entire school district.
3. Maximum Tax Rate. The maximum permissive tax rate shall be that which will produce the same amount of revenue for the unified district as would be produced by applying the present legal maximum tax rates in the component districts as provided in Education Code Section 3130.
4. Assumption of Bonded Debt. The bonded indebtedness shall remain the obligation of the territory that incurred it.
- 5(a) Division of Funds and Obligations. All funds and obligations of the Washington Union High School District shall be apportioned to the unified school district in the same proportion as the assessed valuation of the unified school district bears to the total assessed valuation of the Washington Union High School District as provided in Education Code Section 3359.

All funds which may accrue to, and all obligations which may attach to the existing Washington Union High School District following the date upon which the unified district becomes effective for all purposes, and any adjustments in funds and obligations known or believed to exist on the date when the unified district becomes effective for all purposes shall be apportioned to the unified district on the basis of the proportion which the assessed valuation of the unified district bears to that of the Washington Union High School District on the date when the unified district takes effect for all purposes.

5(b) Use and Division of School Property. The current value of personal property of the Washington Union High School District as determined by a professional appraiser shall be apportioned to the unified school district in the same proportion as the Kindergarten through grade 12 regular day students residing in the unified district, as of the March 31 enrollment reports immediately preceding the date on which the new unified district becomes effective for all purposes, bears to such enrollment in all of the Washington Union High School District, and its component elementary school districts, to be adjusted on the basis of the following provisions:

- (1) Personal property that is normally used and housed in each high school in the proposed unified district, as of March 31 immediately preceding the date on which the new unified district becomes effective for all purposes, shall become the property of the unified school district.
- (2) The net value of the funds and obligations of the Washington Union High School District assigned to the unified district under the provisions of paragraph 5(a), above, shall be considered in computing the proportionate share of the personal property assigned to the new unified district except that funds and obligations accruing or attaching to the Washington Union High School District after, or adjustments in funds or obligations known or believed to exist on, the date when the unified district takes effect for all purposes shall not be considered in computing the proportionate share of personal property of the Washington Union High School District assignable to the unified district.
- (3) All other personal property of the Washington Union High School District shall be divided so as to provide for the apportionment to the unified district on the basis of enrollment formula provided for above.

6. Location of Schools. No recommendation is made on this subject.

A motion was made by Frank J. Borghi, Jr., and seconded by Philip Silver, both members of the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization, that the following recommendation be made:

2. Trustee Areas. There shall be two trustee areas. Trustee Area #1 shall be comprised of the territory of the Alvarado School District and one member of the governing board shall be a resident of Trustee Area #1. Trustee Area #2 shall be comprised of the territory of the Decoto School District and four members of the governing board shall be residents of Trustee Area #2.

The following is a record of the vote on that motion:

Certificate of Recommendation

-4

County Committee MembersYesNoAbsent

Mrs. Dorothy Balangero

X

J. Ralph Baxter

X

Frank J. Borghi, Jr.

X

Godfrey A. Duncan

X

Dr. Raymond D. Gurney

X

Roy B. Jensen

X

Mrs. Harriet Nathan

X

Edward F. Newman

X

Leonard J. Paquette

X

Philip Silver

X

Ralph Van Nortwick

X

Subtotal

8

2

1

School Districts

Alvarado

William Machado

X

Decoto

James W. Celcer

X

Washington Union High School District

Gordon E. Dickerson

X

Subtotal

300

Total

11

2

1

The chairman declared the motion carried.

The Augmented Alameda County Committee on School District Organization considered the present and possible future ethnic composition of the residents of the territory included in the proposed unified school district and in the territory adjacent to it and it was their judgment that the proposed new district will not place obstacles in the way of achieving racial integration in the schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward F. Newman, Chairman

Rock La Fleche, Superintendent of
Schools of Alameda County,
Ex-officio Secretary

NOTE: The final recommendations of the Augmented County Committee were preceded by tentative recommendations made at the meeting of May 31, 1962. A motion for a tentative recommendation to unify the area of the Washington Union High School District and its component elementary school districts as a single unified district was made by Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson of the Washington Union High School District Board and was seconded by Albert J. Diaz of the Alviso School District Board. The vote on this motion was as follows:

<u>County Committee Members</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mrs. Dorothy Balangero	X		
J. Ralph Baxter	X		
Frank J. Borghi, Jr.	X		
Godfrey A. Duncan	X		
Dr. Raymond D. Gurney	X		
Roy B. Jensen		X	
Mrs. Harriet Nathan	X		
Leonard J. Paquette	X		
Philip Silver	X		
Ralph Van Nortwick	X		
Edward F. Newman			X
Subtotal	9	1	1
<u>School Districts</u>			
Washington Union High School District			
Gordon E. Dickerson	X		
Newark			
Harry S. Lewis		X	
Decoto			
James W. Celcer		X	
Centerville			
Elmer Wiesenborn		X	
Warm Springs			
Orvel Gibson		X	
Niles			
Donald Bragg	X		
Irvington			
Abe N. Holden	X		
Alvarado			
George Vargas	X		
Alviso			
Albert Diaz	X		
Subtotal	5	4	0
Total	14	5	1

The chairman declared the motion carried.

The public hearing required by Education Code Sections 3113(e), 3113.5, and 3108.5 was held on July 19, 1962, at the Washington High School, 38442 Fremont Blvd., Fremont. Statements favoring the proposed unification were made by Mrs. Patricia Sutton of the League of Women Voters; and Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board.

Statements opposing the formation of a single unified district of the area of the Washington Union High School District, but supporting the formation of two unified districts of the area of the Washington Union High School District, specifically asking that the area of Decoto, Alvarado, and Newark School Districts, and the portion of Alviso School District west of the Nimitz Freeway be recommended as one of the two unified districts, were made by the following persons and organizations; Dr. Harold Schoenfeld, Superintendent, Decoto School District; Decoto Home Owners Association; Union City Chamber of Commerce, represented by Bernie R. Joseph; Holly Sugar Corporation, represented by J. A. Ratekin; Pacific States Steel Corporation; Latin American Political Club of Union City, represented by Leo J. Alvelais; Fairway Park Merchants Association, represented by William Clark; Citizens Committee for Unification of the Decoto School District, represented by John DeClercq; Decoto School District Board of Trustees; Decoto-Alvarado Teachers Association, represented by Raymond E. Farley; Union City Merchants' Association, represented by Alphonso Rodrigues; Union City Taxpayers Association, represented by E. C. Rivera; Union City Council, represented by Tom Kitayama; Milton H. Salz, represented by Mrs. Irene Vis.

Statements opposing the formation of a single unified school district or division of the area into two unified school districts, but supporting its division into three unified districts, and specifically asking that the area of Newark School District be recommended as one of the three proposed unified school districts, were made by: Mrs. C. Kincaid, Newark Women's Improvement Club; Clark W. Redeker, representing the Newark City Council; Jack MacGregor, Superintendent of Newark School District; and Gordon Cotton, representing the Newark Chamber of Commerce.

Statements favoring the formation of three unified districts, conforming as closely as possible to the three cities of Fremont, Union City and Newark, were made by Wesley Sears, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board; and Mrs. Shirley Buschke, a resident of Newark.

Statements expressing opposition to any form of unification at this time were made by Dr. Holger Rasmussen, a member of the Centerville School District Board; and R. P. Cunningham, a resident of Irvington School District.

A second public hearing was held on October 18, 1962, at the Washington High School, 38442 Fremont Blvd., Fremont. Statements favoring the formation of a single unified district of the area of the high school district were made by James Nunes, Superintendent of Alviso School District, representing the Board of that district; Dr. Gordon E. Dickerson, a member of the Board of Washington Union High School District; and Dr. Edward Kaye, a resident of Fremont, who said as a second choice he would favor dividing the area into two unified districts.

A statement favoring the division of the area into three unified districts (1) Decoto-Alvarado, (2) Newark, (3) Alviso-Centerville-Irvington-Niles-Warm Springs, was submitted in writing by the governing board of Warm Springs School District.

Statements favoring the formation of two unified districts (1) Decoto-Alvarado-Newark-Alviso west of the Nimitz Freeway, (2) Alviso east of Nimitz Freeway-Centerville-Irvington-Niles-Warm Springs, were made by Dr. Harold Schoenfeld, Superintendent of Decoto School District, representing its Board; and Joseph Seoane, Jr., a member of the Decoto School District Board.

A statement favoring the formation of a unified district conforming as nearly as possible to the city of Fremont was made by Maurice B. Marks, a resident of Fremont. A statement favoring the formation of a unified district of the area of the Newark School District was made by Jack MacGregor, Superintendent of Newark School District.

Financially, the proposed unified districts will allow greater flexibility in use of operating funds. It will eliminate competition for the tax dollar between secondary and elementary levels of education. It will insure better financial support for students by avoiding duplication on the part of the unified public regarding tax and bond issues and it will have a better tax base, a greater equalization of tax burden and improved financial support for the schools at the local level. It will allow more efficient use of school buildings and equipment.

The plan will result in administrative and professional advantages. It will utilize the specialized competencies of administrators, teachers and counselors more effectively. It will eliminate duplication of functions such as record keeping, budget preparation, transportation and purchasing. It makes possible a single salary schedule for all teachers on all grade levels and further training and experience and promotes better personnel policies by eliminating

technologically, this unification plan will further the interests of all residents of the area who use Decoto schools, shopping centers, libraries, civic groups, churches and participate in common character building activities such as Boy and Girl Scouts, Little League, playground activities, recreation facilities, etc. Also the two districts have had a successful out-of-district bus transportation services.

FWF:mg
4/8/63

ARGUMENTS FAVORING UNIFICATION

The proposed unification of the Decoto and Alvarado School Districts and that portion of the Washington Union High School District situated within the boundaries of these elementary districts is advantageous educationally, administratively, economically, professionally and sociologically to the residents of this area. It will provide a better organization, more efficient expenditure of public funds, stronger local control and a better quality of education.

The Decoto-Alvarado Unified School District plan is the most nearly ideal plan for school district organization of the area. Educationally it provides for a continuous educational program from the kindergarten through the twelfth grade. It provides for an articulated program under one Board of Education and one chief administrator. The area involved and the student population therein composes an ideal beginning size for the development of one unified school district that will grow as the area grows. This proposed unified school district will include 4500 A.D.A. and within five years it will have 9000 A.D.A. It has sufficient students now to enable it to provide all essential educational services on all levels at a reasonable cost per pupil and it will provide equal educational services to all the children of the area--elementary and secondary. It will eliminate the problems of students entering high school with varying educational backgrounds. It will continue the high quality and quantity of course offerings in the high school and will add such specialized services as a school nurse and such physically handicapped programs as speech therapy on the secondary level. It will provide a suitable climate for improved educational services.

Economically, the proposed unified district will allow greater flexibility in use of operating funds. It will eliminate competition for the tax dollar between secondary and elementary levels of education. It will insure better local financial support for schools by avoiding confusion on the part of the voting public regarding tax and bond issues and it will have a better tax base, a greater equalization of tax burden and improved financial support for the schools at the local level. It will allow more efficient use of school buildings and equipment.

The plan will result in administrative and professional advantages. It will utilize the specialized competencies of administrators, teachers and counsellors more effectively. It will eliminate duplication of functions such as record keeping, budget preparation, transportation and purchasing. It makes possible a single salary schedule for all teachers on all grade levels based on similar training and experience and promotes better personnel policies and standards.

Sociologically, this unification plan will further the interests of all residents of the area who use common schools, shopping centers, lodges, civic groups, churches and participate in common character building agencies such as Boy and Girl Scouts, Little League, playground activities, recreation facilities, etc. Also the two districts have had a successful mutual contract for recreation services.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE DECOTO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Joseph L. Adams President
Paul L. Pagan Clerk

Alvarado School District

DELIVERY: 31100 FREDI STREET • MAIL: P. O. BOX 307 • UNION CITY, CALIFORNIA • PHONE: GREENLEAF 1-1039

D. KEITH ALWARD
SUPERINTENDENT

• • •

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

WILBERT HENDRICKS
WILLIAM MACHADO
GEORGE VARGAS

A STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED UNIFICATION OF THE ALVARADO AND DECOTO SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The proposed unification of the Alvarado and Decoto School Districts is a substitute at best-----a last minute decision by the Augmented County Committee on School District Organization to tidy up loose ends, after it had already been voted down by that same committee earlier in the evening. It is a sacrifice on the altar of "unification for the sake of unification," not unification for the purpose of improving services to children. The chronology of the evening on which this recommendation was adopted by the augmented Alameda County Committee on School District Organization is as follows:

1. Proposal for unification of the Newark School District was approved by a vote of 7 ayes, 4 noes and 2 absent.
2. Proposal for unification of Alvarado-Decoto School Districts was defeated by a vote of 7 ayes, 5 noes, and 2 absent. (8 ayes needed for passage.)
3. Proposal for unification of Alviso, Niles, Centerville, Irvington, and Warm Springs districts was approved by a vote of 12 ayes, 3 noes and 2 absent.
4. In light of the feeling that "something had to be done about Alvarado and Decoto" the proposal was re-submitted for approval, this time being passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 1 no and 2 absent.

The California State Department of Education has long been on record as recommending a minimum size for a unified district as 10,000 pupils. The University of California's Dr. Edgar L. Morphet and Dr. Theodore L. Reller, nationally respected authorities on school district organization, after a lengthy study of School District Organization in Washington Township submitted their report stating that the Alvarado-Decoto Unified District "would be too small to provide an adequate educational program economically. It would take about ten years for these two districts to reach minimum size for efficient performance." They also declare that "The evidence indicates that whenever practicable, districts should have an enrollment of at least 10,000 pupils for effective and economical operation, and should be even larger in many areas."

The Report by Drs. Morphet and Reller, requested and paid for by all school districts of Washington Township, did recommend two other proposals for unification in the area. These were subsequently circumvented for what we can only believe were political reasons, since we cannot see where the welfare of children was the prime guiding motive in the subsequent action.

The proposed Alvarado-Decoto district as of the school year 1961-62 yield a total of only 4,181 pupils, kindergarten through grade 12. Enrollment figures for the school year 1962-63 show an increase of only 58 pupils in kindergarten through eighth grade. (High school enrollment figures by district were not available at the time.) We respectfully submit that this constitutes less than half the recommended minimum, and that the proposal will not only fail to improve the present educational programs but may in some cases have a detrimental effect. An example of this would be Logan High School dropping from approximately

1500 enrollment down to less than 800. To further quote from the Morphet Report, "There are fewer differences found in the services provided by the elementary districts than in their educational programs." We further submit that the existent differences in the educational programs have developed as a result of differing needs rather than a difference in educational philosophies. An unsatisfactory unification action could well result in a disruption of present individualized programs with little or no concurrent benefits as a result of unification.

We, the members of the Board of Trustees of the Alvarado School District, unanimously recommend rejection of the proposal for unification of the Alvarado and Decoto School Districts.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration,

Wilbert Hendricks, Clerk

William Machado, Trustee

George Vargas, Trustee

by: D. Keith Alward

D. Keith Alward, Sect'y to Board

TABLE 1

Average Daily Attendance by Existing School Districts in the
Proposed Alvarado, Decoto Unified School District
From 1953-54 Through 1961-62

Name of School District	Average Daily Attendance by School Year					March 1963 Enrollment
	1953-54	1955-56	1957-58	1959-60	1961-62	
Elementary Districts						
Alvarado	222	265	274	290	282	267
Decoto	1,283	1,729	2,404	2,774	3,091	3,174
Totals	1,505	1,994	2,678	3,064	3,373	3,441
High School District Total	1,024	1,533	2,328	3,348	5,032	5,981

TABLE 2

Enrollment by Grades in the Existing Districts
as of March 29, 1963

Name of School Dist.	Kinder- garten	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Specials	9	10	11	12	Total
Alvarado	31	42	28	25	24	28	32	28	29						267
Decoto	417	405	358	418	338	324	284	313	301	16					3,174
High School Students										18	300	269	199	132	918
Total	448	447	386	443	362	352	316	341	330	34	300	269	199	132	4,359
Total High School Dist.*										51	1,919	1,736	1,435	840	5,981

* Totals per grade include special education classes

TABLE 3

Assessed Valuation Data and School District Tax Rates for 1962-63
by Existing School Districts in the
Alvarado, Decoto Unified School District

Name of School District	Total Assessed Valuation	Assessed Valuation Per Pupil*	Tax Levied For								Total Tax Rate
			Elem. Bonds	State Loan Elem.	High School Bonds	State Loan High School	Junior College Bonds	Elem. Budget	High School Budget	Junior College Budget	
Alvarado	\$ 5,509,695	\$20,636	.35	.06	.416	.05	---	1.95	1.40	.3637	4.5897
Decoto	18,599,130	5,860	.48	.14	.416	.05	---	2.17	1.40	.3637	5.0197
Total	\$24,108,825	\$ 7,006									
Total High School Dist.	\$133,335,612	\$22,293									

* Using March 1963 enrollment.

TABLE 4

Current Expenditures Per Unit of Average Daily Attendance
 By Existing School Districts in the Proposed
 Alvarado, Decoto Unified School District
 From 1953-54 Through 1961-62

Name of School District	Current Expenditure Per Unit of A.D.A.				
	1953-54	1955-56	1957-58	1959-60	1961-62
Elementary Districts					
Alvarado	\$ 238.91	\$ 294.82	\$ 320.84	\$ 389.07	\$ 427.95
Decoto	252.15	277.31	312.31	334.45	364.41
High School District	\$ 367.29	\$ 389.47	\$ 419.92	\$ 477.63	\$ 553.32

TABLE 5

Summary of Outstanding Bonded Indebtedness as of July 1, 1962
By Existing School Districts in the Alvarado, Decoto Unified School District

Name of School District	Bonding Capacity	Total Bonds Outstanding July 1, 1962	Unused Bonding Capacity	State Loans Outstanding July 1, 1962
Elementary Districts				
Alvarado	\$ 275,485	\$ 169,000	\$ 106,485	\$ 256,611
Decoto	929,956	859,000	70,956	2,532,323
Subtotal	\$ 1,205,441	\$ 1,028,000	\$ 177,441	\$ 2,788,934
Proportional High School District *	1,205,441	1,032,243	173,198	859,829
Total	\$ 2,410,882	\$ 2,060,243	\$ 350,639	\$ 3,648,763
Total High School District	\$ 6,666,780	\$ 5,703,000	\$ 963,780	\$ 4,750,436

* Based upon percentage of total high school district assessed valuation.

TABLE 6

Sources of School District Budgeted Funds for Current Expenditures for
the School Year 1962-63 by Existing Districts in the
Proposed Alvarado, Decoto Unified District

Name of School District	Local	%	State	%	Federal	%	Misc.	%	Totals
Elementary Districts									
Alvarado	\$ 109,000	72.4	\$ 40,550	26.9			\$ 1,000	.7	\$ 150,550
Decoto	414,300	34.3	758,304	62.7	\$ 25,000	2.1	10,971	.9	1,208,575
Total	\$ 523,300	38.5	\$ 798,854	58.8	\$ 25,000	1.8	\$11,971	.9	\$1,359,125
Total High School District	\$1,890,500	55.5	\$1,410,479	41.4	\$ 80,000	2.3	\$27,600	.8	\$3,408,579

REVIEW OF THE WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AREA STUDY

Following the 1935-36 school year, a series of conferences by parents, teachers, and the community, and a study of the Washington Union High School District, were conducted. The purpose of these conferences was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

On December 1, 1935, the Washington Union High School District held a conference at the Washington Union High School. The purpose of this conference was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

January 15, 1936. A public hearing was held on the petition that had been presented to the January 10 meeting. The purpose of this hearing was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

REVIEW OF THE WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AREA STUDY

February 15, 1936. The County Board of Supervisors received a petition from the Washington Union High School District. The purpose of this petition was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

March 15, 1936. The County Board of Supervisors received a petition from the Washington Union High School District. The purpose of this petition was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

April 15, 1936. A public hearing was held on the petition that had been presented to the April 10 meeting. The purpose of this hearing was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

May 15, 1936. The County Board of Supervisors received a petition from the Washington Union High School District. The purpose of this petition was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

June 15, 1936. The County Board of Supervisors received a petition from the Washington Union High School District. The purpose of this petition was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

July 15, 1936. A public hearing was held on the petition that had been presented to the July 10 meeting. The purpose of this hearing was to determine the needs of the community and to determine the needs of the school district. The study was conducted by the Washington Union High School District and the community.

REVIEW OF THE WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AREA STUDY

Beginning on June 23, 1955, a series of informal discussions on general administrative problems, but emphasizing those associated with school district organization, was held. Participants were the superintendents of the school districts in the area and representatives of the State Department of Education and the County School Department.

On December 3, 1955 the Washington Township School Boards Conference on Education was held at Washington Union High School. This conference was modeled after a White House Conference on Education in Washington and the Governor's Conference on Education in Sacramento the same year. One of the conference section meetings was on school district organization and those attending expressed a consensus favoring the unified pattern of school district organization for the area of the Washington Union High School District. Two petitions from residents of the Washington area were presented at the County Committee's meeting of January 10, 1956. One petition asked for study of the formation of a single district of Alvarado, Alviso, Decoto, and Niles. The other suggested study of unifying all or part of the high school district.

January 25, 1956. A public hearing was held on the two petitions that had been presented at the January 10 meeting. About 200 people attended. Opinions seemed to be quite evenly divided as to whether school district organization should be studied formally at that time. For further evidence of local feelings, the County Committee wrote to all school and parent organizations in the area. The replies were almost unanimous in opposing a study. It was decided not to undertake one.

November 27, 1956. The County Committee received a petition to study school district organization in the area of La Vista, Decoto, and Alvarado School Districts.

August 1956. The Newark City Council appointed a local committee to study school district organization in Newark. This committee reached its conclusions in January 1957 and recommended that the County Committee be petitioned to initiate a study.

February 27, 1957. A public hearing was held on the petition to study the area of Alvarado, Decoto, and La Vista School Districts. Following the hearing, it was decided to study the area.

March 20, 1957. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Alvarado, Decoto, and La Vista area found that the principal reason for requesting study of the area was to effect boundary adjustments between Decoto and La Vista School Districts. The Augmented Committee concluded that this problem could be more easily handled as part of the Hayward Area Study and it was agreed that there would be no separate study of the Alvarado, Decoto, La Vista area.

April 17, 1957. The County Committee considered a petition from ten citizens of Newark. It requested a study of the possibility of organizing a unified school district in the area of Newark and adjacent territory west of the freeway. A public hearing was set for May 8.

May 8, 1957. A public hearing was held on a petition to study Newark School District and adjacent area west of the freeway. About 80 people attended the

hearing and all who expressed themselves were in favor of having a study made.

May 15, 1957. The County Committee reviewed proceedings of the May 8 public hearing and decided to form an augmented committee to undertake a study of the area.

June 5, 1957. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Newark, Irvington, and Alviso Area met, but found it impossible to define the area to be studied or to conclude that they could study the area without also considering the possible effects on the remainder of the Washington Union High School District. The County Committee, therefore, decided to ask all school boards of the high school district area to send their administrators to an informal conference.

August 21, 1957. The County Committee met with the administrators of all school districts in the area of the Washington Union High School District. This conference made even more evident the difficulty of taking any part of the Washington Union High School District area to study as an isolated unit.

September 18, 1957. The County Committee met and took formal action to expand the area under study to that of the entire Washington Union High School District. All trustees of the area were notified that they had become members of the Augmented Committee.

February 26, 1958. The Augmented County Committee for Study of the Area of the Washington Union High School District held its first meeting. A quorum was present. Steps in studying school district organization were discussed and the merits of unification were cited. Representatives of several school districts said that they and their fellow board members were in favor of studying the area. One or two reported that their boards had taken no stand on the question, but no one opposed the study. It was decided that the superintendents would constitute a research subcommittee and advance the study until such time as the need for outside consultants might become apparent.

April 23, 1958. This was not an official meeting of the Augmented Committee since a quorum was lacking. However, a report from the committee of administrators was presented. The school districts of the area were grouped in the report into five possible unified districts:

District A: Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Mission San Jose, Niles and Warm Springs

District B: Newark

District C: Alvarado and Decoto

District D: All districts except Newark

District E: All districts

June 30, 1958. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum present. It was reported that the research subcommittee had met almost every week for several months to prepare the data requested by the Augmented Committee. The information was discussed and the method of voting on a recommendation to the State Board of Education was explained.

July 23, 1958. The Augmented County Committee met with a quorum present. A letter from Centerville School District was read urging further study of the area before deciding upon recommendations for any changes. It listed a number of questions on which further information should be gathered. A letter was read from Newark School District asking "favorable action on unification of the Newark School District." Following a discussion of the various areas on which data had been compiled, recommendations were suggested and voted upon. The Augmented Committee voted against recommending Newark for a unified district; voted against recommending that all the area except Newark become a unified district; and voted in favor of a recommendation to the State Board of Education that the entire area become one unified school district.

August 8, 1958. A public hearing was held on the recommendation to form one unified school district of the area of the Washington Union High School District. The hearing was conducted by Donald S. Bragg, Vice-chairman of the County Committee, with two other members of the committee present. They were Mary G. Rodrigues and Roy B. Jensen.

August 14, 1958. The Newark City Council passed a resolution questioning the legality of the public hearing of August 8 (which had been conducted by less than a quorum of the committee) and requesting the State Board of Education to "refer the recommendation of the Alameda County Committee on School District Organization back to said County Committee for further study and for the purpose of holding a public hearing in accordance with Section 4902.1 of the Education Code. . ." and asking that "the State Board of Education further recommend to the County Committee on School District Organization of Alameda County that it examine the boundaries and consequences of unification of the area within Washington Township and more particularly to reconsider permitting and recommending that the Newark School District be a unified school district."

October 22, 1958. The County Committee met and discussed the suggestion that a quorum of the committee conduct another public hearing, since the legality of the August 8 hearing had been questioned. The suggestion had come from the administrative advisor to the State Board of Education. The County Committee agreed that a quorum would hold another hearing on December 3 and that the Augmented Committee would be reconvened immediately following the hearing. Also at the Committee's meeting of October 22, a letter from the Newark City Council Committee on School District Organization was read asking that the County Committee "withhold action on the present unification study with respect to a final decision or determination in this matter", pending the completion of a professional survey that was then being planned by the Newark Council Committee. The Committee decided that action on this request would be the prerogative of the Augmented Committee and not of the County Committee.

November 19, 1958. The County Committee met and decided to postpone the proposed December 3 public hearing until January 21, 1959, because it was felt that the outcome of an election to form Union City on January 13 would have an important influence on the views of the people of that area on school district organization.

January 21, 1959. A public hearing was held with a quorum of 20 of a total of 21 votes of the Augmented Committee represented. Dr. G. E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board, asked whether consolidation of elementary districts according to attendance areas of existing and proposed high schools should not be considered as an intermediate step to unification. Resolutions requesting the County Committee to reverse its decision of July 23, 1958 and give the

area further study were submitted by Decoto School District, Newark School District, and a number of Newark community groups. Ellsworth Finlay, a member of the Centerville School District Board, stated that that board was not against unification in principle, but feared that at the present time it would hinder the building programs of the rapidly-growing elementary districts and of the Washington Union High School District.

January 21, 1959. The Augmented Committee convened immediately following the public hearing with 20 votes of a total of 21 represented. A vote was taken on the following question: "Shall the recommendation, approved by majority vote of this Augmented Committee on July 23, 1958, that a unified school district be formed comprising the area of the Washington Union High School District be reaffirmed?" By a vote of 12 to 8 the Augmented Committee decided not to reaffirm its recommendation of July 23, 1958.

March 18, 1959. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum of 15 of a total of 21 votes represented. Mary Rodrigues, a member of the County Committee and of the Centerville School District Board, reported on a series of meetings of administrators and board members to explore the possibility of combining the nine elementary districts into three or four union elementary districts. Statistical reports were presented for Decoto and Alvarado, for Newark, and for Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Mission San Jose, Niles, and Warm Springs. It was pointed out that projections of enrollment in the Union City, Fremont, and Newark areas showed that all would be large enough to become adequate unified school districts within seven or eight years.

April 15, 1959. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum of 16 of 21 votes represented. Mrs. Rodrigues reported that the representatives of the six school districts in Fremont had voted 5 to 1 to ask the Augmented Committee to recommend that they become one union elementary school district. It was moved and seconded that a recommendation be made to the State Board of Education that Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Mission San Jose, Niles, and Warm Springs become one union elementary school district. The motion was approved by 13 affirmative votes. It was reported that no decision had been made on the unionization of Decoto and Alvarado School Districts.

June 3, 1959. A public hearing was held on the proposed formation of a union elementary district in Fremont. Ten votes of a total of 17 on the Augmented Committee were represented. Ralph Baxter, a member of the Irvington School District Board, expressed some concern about a possible delay in the building program in his district in the course of unionization. A representative of the Fremont League of Women Voters said that they favored forming the proposed union elementary school district but intended to continue study of the eventual possibility of unification.

June 3, 1959. The Augmented Committee convened following the public hearing and reaffirmed its recommendation of April 15. Ten affirmative votes were cast.

July 10, 1959. The State Board of Education approved the Committee's recommendation to form one union elementary district of the six Fremont elementary school districts. Subsequently, the date of November 10, 1959 was set for the election.

November 10, 1959. An election was held on the proposal to form a union elementary district of the six districts in the city of Fremont. It was voted down in four of the six districts and the two in which it was approved were not contiguous.

November 2, 1960. Dr. Harold Schoenfeld, Superintendent of the Decoto School District, and William Koller, Superintendent of the Washington Union High School District, reported renewed interest in studying school district organization in the Washington High School District area. Plans for organizing a large committee of lay citizens to study school district organization were outlined. It was agreed that school board members in the Washington area would notify the County Committee chairman when a joint meeting of the citizens committee and the Augmented Committee could be arranged.

January 31, 1961. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Washington High School Area convened with a quorum of 17 of a total of 21 votes represented. The purpose of the meeting was to hear a report from the Washington Township Unification Study Committee. It was reported that the superintendents of the school districts in the area had been asked to compile information for the following possible unified districts: (1) the entire Washington High School District; (2) three unified districts of approximately the same areas as the three cities in Washington Township; (3) a Newark unified district; (4) a south Fremont unified district, including Irvington, Mission San Jose, and Warm Springs; (5) a north Fremont unified district, including Niles, Centerville, and Alviso.

May 31, 1961. The Augmented Committee for Study of the Washington Area met with a quorum of 16 of a total of 21 votes represented. Reports were heard from several of the subcommittees of the Washington Township Unification Study Committee. These recommended the employment of an outside consultant to complete the study of the area. It was reported that Dr. Edgar L. Morphet would be available to assist in such a study and that the estimated cost for professional services would be \$5,600. Subsequently, the school boards of the area agreed to share the cost of employing Dr. Morphet and his colleague, Dr. Theodore L. Reller, as consultants.

January 25, 1962. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum present. Eighteen votes of a total of 20 were represented. A progress report from the Washington Township Unification Study Committee was given by Dr. Theodore L. Reller. Dr. Reller explained that the aim was a report that would reflect the combined judgment of the committee members and the consultants. He said that the Unification Study Committee and the consultants had agreed that the patterns of school district organization to be considered would be based on school district rather than city boundaries. He distributed statistical data on three possible patterns of unification: (1) one district for the entire area of the Washington Union High School District, (2) three unified districts including the area of these groups of elementary school districts: (a) Alvarado, Alviso, and Decoto; (b) Niles, Centerville, Irvington, and Warm Springs; (c) Newark; (3) the same as pattern number 2 except that Niles would be grouped with Alvarado, Alviso, and Decoto.

May 31, 1962. The Augmented Committee met with a quorum of 19 of a total of 20 votes represented. Dr. Edgar L. Morphet and Dr. Theodore L. Reller presented the report they had prepared for the Washington Township Unification Study Committee. Excerpts from the written report were read, concluding with the recommendation that two possibilities be considered: (1) a unified district to include the entire Township, and as a second choice, (2) two unified districts, one to comprise Decoto, Alvarado, Alviso and Newark, the other to include Centerville, Niles, Irvington, and Warm Springs. Resolutions were read from the Board of Trustees of Newark School District and the City Council of Newark urging the formation of a unified school district of the area of the Newark School District.

It was reported that the League of Women Voters of Fremont recommended the formation of one unified district of the area of the Washington Union High School District. A motion to make a tentative recommendation for the formation of a unified district of Newark was defeated by a vote of 10 to 2. A motion that a tentative recommendation be made for the formation of a unified district of Alvarado, Decoto, Newark and that part of Alviso west of the freeway was defeated by a vote of 10 to 5. A motion to make a tentative recommendation for the formation of a unified district comprising Centerville, Niles, Irvington, and Warm Springs Elementary School Districts was defeated by a vote of 11 to 4. A motion to make a tentative recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the entire area of the high school district was approved by a vote of 14 to 5.

July 19, 1962. A public hearing was held on the tentative recommendation to form one unified school district of the entire area of the Washington Union High School District. Sixteen votes of a total of twenty on the Augmented Committee were represented at the hearing. Statements from the Decoto School District Board of Trustees and from representatives of various community groups favored the formation of a unified district of Decoto, Alvarado, Newark, and the western portion of Alviso School District. Strong support was given to the recommended formation of a unified district of Newark School District alone. It was pointed out that such a district would be larger than half of California's present unified districts. Dr. Holger Rasmussen, a member of the Centerville School District Board, said that that board had concluded that they could not vote for a single large unified district and that it was doubtful that unification at this time would be in the best interests of the people of the Centerville School District or of the entire Washington Union High School District. Dr. G. E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington Union High School District Board of Trustees, spoke in favor of forming one unified district of the entire area.

July 19, 1962. The Augmented Committee, with 16 votes of a total of 20 represented, convened immediately following the public hearing and decided to hold another public hearing on October 18.

October 18, 1962. A second public hearing was held on the tentative recommendation of May 31 to form a single unified district of the area of the Washington Union High School District. Strong support was indicated for the formation of three unified districts; (1) Newark; (2) Alvarado and Decoto; (3) Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, and Warm Springs. James Nunes, Superintendent of Alviso School District, and Dr. G. E. Dickerson, a member of the Washington High School District Board, made statements in favor of forming one large unified school district rather than three smaller ones.

October 18, 1962. The Augmented Committee was convened immediately following the public hearing with a quorum of 18 votes of a total of 20 represented. A motion to modify the tentative recommendation of May 31 for the formation of one large unified district was approved by a vote of 16 to 2. A motion to make a final recommendation for a Newark unified school district was approved by 7 affirmative votes. A final recommendation for the formation of a unified district of Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles, and Warm Springs School Districts was approved by 12 affirmative votes. A motion to make a final recommendation for a unified district of Alvarado and Decoto School Districts was approved by 11 affirmative votes.

March 7, 1963. The Augmented Committee convened with a quorum of 19 of a total of 20 votes represented and approved for each of the three proposed unified school districts supplemental recommendations on trustees, trustee areas, maximum tax rate, assumption of bonded debt, division of property, and location of schools.

May 23-24, 1963. The State Board of Education considered but did not approve the recommendations for the proposed three unified school districts.

June 17, 1963. The State Board of Education addressed a letter to the County Committee officially notifying it of the Board's action and listing six reasons. These were in brief:

1. Two of the districts would not meet standards for size.
2. The high school program would be disrupted.
3. The inadequate districts would tend to perpetuate themselves.
4. There was insufficient evidence that the entire area could not become one unified district.
5. Fragmentation of the high school district's tax base would be undesirable.
6. There would not be appreciably greater equalization of local wealth at the elementary level.

August 1, 1963. The Augmented Committee convened with a quorum of 14 of a total of 20 votes represented. The State Board of Education's letter of June 17 was discussed. A motion was made to recommend that the entire area become one unified district but died for lack of a second. It was decided that the meeting be adjourned to be reconvened on August 7, 1963.

August 7, 1963. The Augmented Committee reconvened its meeting that was adjourned temporarily on August 1. A quorum was present, with 12 of a total of 20 votes represented. A motion was made to resubmit unchanged the April 1963 recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the area of the Newark School District. It was seconded and received the necessary seven affirmative votes. A quorum was not present to consider re-submission of the recommendations for a unified district of Alvarado and Decoto. It was evident, without taking a ballot, that there was insufficient support at this meeting for resubmitting recommendations for the unification of Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs.

August 29, 1963. The Augmented Committee convened with a quorum of seventeen of a total of twenty votes represented. A motion was made to submit unchanged the April 1963 recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the area of the Alviso, Centerville, Irvington, Niles and Warm Springs School Districts. The motion was seconded and received thirteen "yes" votes, and two "no" votes. Two members of the Augmented Committee were absent. A motion was made to resubmit unchanged the April 1963 recommendation for the formation of a unified district of the area of the Alvarado and Decoto School Districts. The motion was seconded and received 11 "yes" votes, and no "no" votes. Three members of the Augmented Committee were absent.

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